

Attending Repton Summer School was an amazing experience and was a great opportunity to learn new information and meet a range of people. Upon arriving, it took a while to find the right building since the school was so big, but eventually found the right place and signed in. I was shown to my room, and then joined the dining room with a coffee where people were gathering, waiting for everyone to arrive. At first I was quite apprehensive, as I hadn't been to a summer school before, but eventually began to look forward to the week more after an introduction.

Introductions were made in an informal introduction session about Greek myth, and after dinner everyone had to decide which Greek play to be a part of which would take place at the end of the week. The options were the Greek comedy by Aristophanes, or the Greek tragedy by Aeschylus, but the comedy (Birds) personally sounded more appealing to take part in. I was a part of the Chorus of birds which was entertaining and fun, and was rewarding to perform at the end of the week as so much work had gone into the play. The props made the play even better and the paper wings made the play have a better effect.



The structure of each day was manageable and there was plenty of free time to relax throughout the day in places like the common room or outside, taking in the scenery of the school grounds. The food given at mealtimes was consistent and even if the meals were a food I didn't enjoy there was a lot of extras to choose from. Repton's accommodation was

comfortable for the week and had a good view from the window of the surrounding nature, although it was a bit complicated to navigate. Towards the end of the summer school there was a book sale of classics related books which was a bonus, because it was interesting to look around and buy some of the titles on offer.

The sessions I chose for the week were Alexander the Great, Introduction to Latin, Julio-Claudian Emperors, Introduction to Greek Comedy, the Iliad, and a myth session. The first session discussed throughout the sessions whether Alexander really deserved the title of 'Great', which I found engaging since it was a viewpoint I hadn't looked at before and changed some people's opinions by the end of the summer school. An Introduction to Latin was taught well and I understood some of the basic grammar by using it to translate small phrases, which was something I hadn't done before. The session on Julio-Claudian emperors was one of the sessions I enjoyed most since I find that subject interesting in general, and it was fun to find out how each of them impacted Rome during their reign. Introduction to Greek Comedy discussed different types of comedy, and then carried on by reading some of Aristophanes' plays and watching a production of Frogs. The Iliad session was quite enjoyable by analysing different passages because I hadn't looked at any epics before, and it was different to find out about what the story meant at the time. Lastly, the myth session was engaging and fun as the group had to act out lines from each of the myths and discuss the meanings after each one, as well as come up with ideas for how to teach them to children. Optional lessons also took place before dinner each evening such as Shakespeare and Classics and Archaeology; They were a great way to get more out of the summer school and filling up the time.



Overall, staying at Repton Summer School 2017 was fun, valuable, and interesting. I learnt a lot of new information regarding classics but also picked up some personal skills too since it was a new experience, and I probably wouldn't have had this experience had it not been for the bursary.